

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-5 (Canceled)

6. (New) A voice attachment control apparatus, comprising:

speech analysis means for speech-analyzing a voice command representative of an instruction regarding operation of an attachment element of a construction machine, the construction machine including the attachment element, actuating means connected to the attachment element to actuate the attachment element and an operator cab for accommodating an operator to operate the attachment element;

speech discrimination means for discriminating the instruction of the voice command analyzed by said speech analysis means, the voice instruction being issued by the operator in the operator cab; and

machine body control means for controlling the operation of the attachment element according to the voice instruction being discriminated by said speech discrimination means.

7. (New) A voice attachment control apparatus according to claim 6, wherein

when said speech analysis means analyzes a first voice command and said speech discrimination means discriminates that the instruction of the first voice command is to start the operation of the attachment element, said machine body control means starts the operation of the attachment element,

when said speech analysis means analyzes a second voice command and said speech discrimination means discriminates that the instruction of the second voice command is to make the attachment element carry out a first movement, said machine body control means controls the attachment element to carry out the first movement,

when said speech analysis means analyzes a third voice command and said speech discrimination means discriminates that the instruction of the third voice command is to make the attachment element stop the first movement, said machine body control means controls the attachment element to stop the first movement, and

when said speech analysis means analyzes a fourth voice command and said speech

discrimination means discriminates that the instruction of the fourth voice command is to make the attachment element carry out a second movement, said machine body control means controls the attachment element to carry out the second movement.

8. (New) A voice attachment control apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when said speech analysis means analyzes a particular voice command and said speech discrimination means discriminates that the instruction of the particular voice command is to make the attachment element carry out a plurality of interlocked movements, said machine body control means controls the attachment element to carry out the plural interlocked movements.

9. (New) A voice attachment control method, comprising:

speech-analyzing a voice command representative of an instruction regarding operation of an attachment element of a construction machine, the construction machine including the attachment element, actuating means connected to the attachment element to actuate the attachment element and an operator cab for accommodating an operator to operate the attachment element;

discriminating the instruction of the voice command analyzed in said step of speech-analyzing, the voice instruction being issued by the operator in the operator cab; and

controlling the operation of the attachment element according to the voice instruction being discriminated in said step of discriminating.

10. (New) A voice attachment control method according to claim 9, wherein said steps of speech-analyzing, discriminating and controlling are carried out repeatedly, and when a first voice command is analyzed in said step of speech-analyzing and it is discriminated in said step of discriminating that the instruction of the first voice command is to start the operation of the attachment element, the operation of the attachment element is started in said step of controlling,

when a second voice command is analyzed in said step of speech-analyzing and it is discriminated in said step of discriminating that the instruction of the second voice command is to make the attachment element carry out a first movement, the attachment element is controlled to

carry out the first movement in said step of controlling,

when a third voice command is analyzed in said step of speech-analyzing and it is discriminated in said step of discriminating that the instruction of the third voice command is to make the attachment element stop the first movement, the attachment element is controlled to stop the first movement in said step of controlling, and

when a fourth voice command is analyzed in said step of speech-analyzing and it is discriminated in said step of discriminating that the instruction of the fourth voice command is to make the attachment element carry out a second movement the attachment element is controlled to carry out the second movement in said step of controlling.

11. (New) A voice attachment control method according to claim 9, wherein when a particular voice command is analyzed in said step of speech-analyzing and it is discriminated in said step of discriminating that the instruction of the particular voice command is to make the attachment element carry out a plurality of interlocked movements, the attachment element is controlled to carry out the plural interlocked movements in said step of controlling.